

might of the United States military, and we will prevail.

And as we and our coalition partners are doing in Afghanistan, we will bring to the Iraqi people food and medicines and supplies and freedom.

Many challenges, abroad and at home, have arrived in a single season. In 2 years, America has gone from a sense of invulnerability to an awareness of peril, from bitter division in small matters to calm unity in great causes. And we go forward with confidence, because this call of history has come to the right country.

Americans are a resolute people who have risen to every test of our time. Adversity has revealed the character of our country, to the world and to ourselves. America is a strong nation and honorable in the use of our strength. We exercise power without conquest, and we sacrifice for the liberty of strangers.

Americans are a free people who know that freedom is the right of every person and the future of every nation. The liberty we prize is not America's gift to the world; it is God's gift to humanity.

We Americans have faith in ourselves, but not in ourselves alone. We do not know—we do not claim to know all the ways of providence, yet we can trust in them, placing our confidence in the loving God behind all of life and all of history.

May He guide us now. And may God continue to bless the United States of America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:01 p.m. in the House Chamber of the Capitol. In his remarks, he referred to President Saddam Hussein of Iraq. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

Message on the Observance of the Lunar New Year *January 22, 2003*

I send greetings to those celebrating the Lunar New Year, the Year of the Goat.

The Lunar New Year has traditionally celebrated the rejuvenation of the earth and the start of the new farm season. Today, for many Asian Americans it represents a period of new beginnings and renewed hope. During this time, individuals around the world reaffirm the value of friendship, celebrate family, and look forward to a hopeful future.

As our Nation continues to welcome new opportunities and face new challenges, the Lunar New Year reflects our country's on-

going dedication to affirming the vitality of our traditions, strengthening our relationships with our neighbors, and building a peaceful, more prosperous future for all.

Laura joins me in sending our best wishes for peace, health, and happiness in the New Year.

GEORGE W. BUSH

NOTE: This message was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on January 29. An original was not available for verification of the content of this message.